

P24578.A03



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hiroshi NOMURA et al.

Group Art Unit : Not Yet Assigned

Appl. No. : 10/769,925

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

Filed : February 3, 2004

For : CAM MECHANISM OF A LENS BARREL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98,

Applicants hereby call to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 10-282394, which was published on October 23, 1998, together with an English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-218666, which was published on August 10, 1999, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 6,069,745 to FUJII et al., which issued on May 30, 2000;

Japanese Patent No. 3379721, which issued on February 24, 2003, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,818,647 to NISHIO et al., which issued on October 6, 1998;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-124972, which was published on May 11, 2001, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 6,369,962 to NOMURA et al., which issued on April 9, 2002;

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U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004-0042089 to NOMURA, which was published on March 4, 2004;

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004-0051971 to NOMURA, which was published on March 18, 2004; and

U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004-0042777 to NOMURA, which was published on March 4, 2004.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), copies of the U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are attached and all of the documents have been listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicants also call to the Examiner's attention the following co-pending, commonly assigned patent applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/776,238 to NOMURA et al., entitled "Retracting Mechanism of a Zoom Lens Barrel," which was filed on February 12, 2004;

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/771,300 to NOMURA et al., entitled "Retracting Mechanism of a Zoom Lens Barrel," which was filed on February 5, 2004;

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U.S. Patent Application No. 10/771,402 to NOMURA et al., entitled "Lens Barrel," which was filed on February 5, 2004;

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/771,419 to HIROSHI et al., entitled "Structure of a Zoom Lens Barrel," which was filed on February 5, 2004; and

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/771,298 to NOMURA et al., entitled "Structure of a Lens Barrel," which was filed on February 5, 2004.

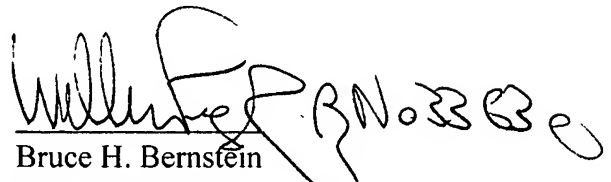
In accordance with the 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(iii), copies of the above-mentioned patent applications are enclosed herewith. However, the Examiner is also requested to review the file wrappers of these patent applications at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the references of record, if any, cited therein.

Applicants also note that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the instant application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

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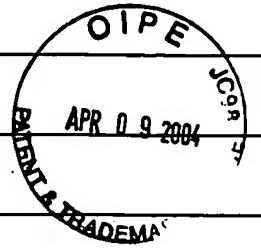
Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Hiroshi NOMURA et al.


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April 5, 2004
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Form PTO-1449

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10/769,925INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)Applicant
Hiroshi NOMURA et al.Filing Date
February 3, 2004Group
Unknown

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER						DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6	0	6	9	7	4	5	05/30/00	FUJI et al.		
		5	8	1	8	6	4	7	10/06/98	NISHIO et al.		
		6	3	6	9	9	6	2	04/09/02	NOMURA et al.		
2004	-	0	0	4	8	0	8	9	03/04/04	NOMURA		
2004	-	0	0	5	1	9	7	1	03/18/04	NOMURA		
2004	-	0	0	4	2	7	7	7	03/18/04	NOMURA		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER						DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	1	0	2	8	2	3	9	4	10/23/98	JAPAN		X	
	1	1	2	1	8	6	6	6	08/10/99	JAPAN			
		3	3	7	9	7	2	1	02/24/03	JAPAN			
200	1	-	1	2	4	9	7	2	05/11/01	JAPAN			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.